

Story County Conservation Board
March 9, 2020
Story County Conservation Center, Ames, Iowa

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:33 PM

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Jim Pease - present
Christine Laumer – present
Nancy Franz – absent
Craig Meyers - present
Ted Tedesco – present
Linda Murken – present

STAFF

Mike Cox
Marianne Harrelson

GUESTS

Mike Meetz

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND HANDOUTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS- Mike Meetz commented on a recent article in the INHF magazine about the 4H camp and a couple members were interviewed. The OLLI group is going to be using the TELC site for some spring classes. He noted that the Photo Contest will be all digital this year and he is going to try to get the Trailgate mentioned on his KOHI program a couple times. He also wanted to thank everyone for participating in the Common Ground recordings.

5. STAFF REPORT – Ryan Wiemold – Ops. Moved to April.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 10, 2020. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. Change Roll Call, Laumer to present. MCU.

7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND RECEIPTS

MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. Pease questioned the payment to Conservation Corps MN/IA. Director Cox indicated that was for work done at Hickory Grove and Robison in the fall. Pease also questioned the payment made to Story County Treasurer. Harrelson clarified that this was for an internal transfer of funds between accounts for the Hickory Grove Park lake restoration project. In December 2018, the board approved a contract with the Iowa DNR for funds to come from the general fund and the conservation reserve. All of the invoices have been paid out of the general fund creating a negative balance. The Auditors office had to write a check to transfer the funds from the general fund to the Conservation Reserve Fund. MCU.

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES

Director Cox indicated that there are going to be a few items that are going to be over expensed but overall, we are in good shape.

9. CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The board meeting next month is on April 13th. Pease indicated that there is a public meeting that the Iowa DNR is conducting on March 24th regarding the Hickory Grove Lake. There

was an article in the Ames Tribune about the meeting that had some incorrect and missed information. We will have a booth at the Eco Fair in Ames on April 25th and our supporter's dinner will be on Wednesday, April 22nd at Prairie Moon. We had 35 people show up for the National Day of Unplugging evening campfire.

10. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Action Forms – Pay adjustment effective 3/30/20 for Jerry Keys @\$2,552.65/bw. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.
- B. Consideration Of 2nd Reading Of Revisions To Story County Conservation Rules And Regulations. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. Changes are highlighted. We made additional changes regarding the two lodges at Hickory Grove Park to be available on a reservation system only. MCU.
- C. Consideration Of Body Armor System Replacement For Park Rangers For \$3,324.16. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer. Director Cox indicated that these are recommended to be replaced every five years. In the past, we have received a grant to cover part of the costs, but the grant is not available. MCU.
- D. Consideration Of Contract Between Finch Livestock Exchange For Management Grazing In SCC Areas. MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Meyers. This will be the ninth year that we have contracted with Finch Livestock Exchange. MCU.
- E. Consideration Of Grant Agreement With The Iowa Department Of Natural Resources For A Trees For Kids Grant For The Sleepy Hollow Addition. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. Pease would like to make sure that the trees are not planted near the corner creating an obstruction for traffic at the intersection. MCU.
- F. Consideration Of Amendment To Professional Services Agreement With Shive Hattery For Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor Phase 3 Engineering Services In The Amount Of \$111,800. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Meyers. This agreement is for the Contract Administration/Construction Observation and the bid process. MCU.
- G. Consideration Of Contract With Howrey Construction For The Tedesco Environmental Learning Corridor, Phase 3 Construction, For \$1,021,881.75. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer. The bids came in under the estimate and within the budget. Work should be complete by September 30, 2020. MCU.
- H. Consideration Of Offer To Buy Real Estate Agreement With The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation For Real Property In Section 6 Of Howard Township. MOTION by Meyers, SECOND by Tedesco. This property is located north of Story City along the South Skunk River. MCU.
- I. Consideration Of Purchase Of Seed For Wicks Wildlife Area From Diversity Farms For \$11,956.00. This will be in addition to some of our seed that we have already planted. This expense is partially offset by a grant of \$6,000.00 from the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation. MOTION by Laumer, SECOND by Meyers. MCU.

J. Consideration Of Contract Between Ernie Gummo And Story County Conservation Board For Campground Attendant Duties At Dakins Lake From March 30 To July 12, 2020. Combined the motion and approval with item K.

K. Consideration Of Contract Between Gene Ridgeway And Story County Conservation Board For Campground Attendant Duties At Hickory Grove Park From March 30 To July 12, 2020. MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer. MCU.

11. UPDATES:

A. General Updates: Director Cox gave an update Hickory Grove. The inspection of the dam by DNR needs to be completed before we can close the gate. A grand opening for the park is scheduled for Saturday, June 13th which is also National Get Outdoors Day. He handed out some documents and gave an update on the Dotson Farm Subdivision project. The developer had a series of conditions that had to be met before rezoning would be approved. Their responses to these conditions are noted with bullets on the document handed out. They want to submit their Preliminary Plat later this month but Planning & Development will not accept it until they have an agreement with the Conservation Board. The board reviewed some of the items to decide how to proceed in order to make them legally binding. Pease asked that all board members review the documents individually and bring up questions or concerns and Cox will schedule a meeting with the developer, Planning & Development and Tom Rosburg to discuss the plans before we consider an agreement.

B. Liaison Assignments, Committee Meetings Updates, and Announcements from the Board: Meyers, Murken and Cox attended the Colo City Council meeting to talk about connecting the city sewer system to Hickory Grove. Meyers anticipates a good outcome from the city. He will have a conversation with the Outdoor Alliance of Story County about sponsoring student scholarships for the 2020 Conference. Tedesco is meeting with the City of Ames to discuss adding a parking lot and restrooms at TELC. Pease stated that Franz has been working on items for the 2020 Conference. They have also been meeting with Cox regarding the Dakins cabin. He received a second copy of the Feasibility Study but he has not had a chance to review it. He and Cox reviewed the preliminary report on Hannum's Mill. We are awaiting the second draft. Cox stated that Franz has been working him and Erica to complete a recertification with Service Enterprise.

C. Other – None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tedesco, SECOND by Laumer, to adjourn. MCU. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.



Recording Secretary



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